

Tuesday, July 22, 1997

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed Treasury/Postal Service Appropriations, Military Construction Appropriations, and VA/HUD Appropriations.

The House passed H.R. 1853, Carl D. Perkins Vocational-Technical Education Act.

House Committee ordered reported the following appropriations for fiscal year 1998: Defense; Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education; and Commerce, Justice, State and Judiciary.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S7785-S7878

Measures Introduced: Nine bills were introduced, as follows: S. 1045-1053. Pages S7862-63

Measures Reported: Reports were made as follows: S. 1048, making appropriations for the Department of Transportation and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998. (S. Rept. No. 105-55)

H.R. 2107, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, with amendments. (S. Rept. No. 105-56) Page S7862

Measures Passed:

Treasury/Postal Service Appropriations, 1998: By a unanimous vote of 99 yeas (Vote No. 191), Senate passed S. 1023, making appropriations for the Treasury Department, the United States Postal Service, the Executive Office of the President, and certain Independent Agencies, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, after taking action on further amendments proposed thereto, as follows:

Pages S7785-S7803

Adopted:

By 54 yeas to 45 nays (Vote No. 190), Campbell (for DeWine) Amendment No. 936, to prohibit the use of funds to pay for an abortion or pay for the administrative expenses in connection with certain health plans that provide coverage for abortions.

Pages S7787-90

Kohl (for Bingaman) Amendment No. 937, to strike provisions prohibiting the use of appropriated

funds for the sole source procurement of energy conservation measures. (By 35 yeas to 64 nays (Vote No. 189), Senate earlier failed to table the amendment.) Pages S7786-87

Military Construction Appropriations, 1998: By 98 yeas to 2 nays (Vote No. 192), Senate passed H.R. 2016, making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, after agreeing to committee amendments, and the following amendment proposed thereto: Pages S7814-23

Burns (for Ford/McConnell) Amendment No. 946, to clarify the availability of funds for activities under the lease of Building No. 1, Lexington, Blue Grass Station, Lexington, Kentucky. Pages S7818, S7821

Senate insisted on its amendments, requested a conference with the House thereon, and the Chair appointed the following conferees: Senators Burns, Hutchison, Faircloth, Craig, Stevens, Murray, Reid, Inouye, and Byrd. Page S7823

VA/HUD Appropriations, 1998: By 99 yeas to 1 nay (Vote No. 194), Senate passed H.R. 2158, making appropriations for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, after striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the text of S. 1034, Senate companion measure, and after taking action on amendments proposed thereto, as follows:

Pages S7803-12, S7823-57

Adopted:

Graham Amendment No. 948, to express the sense of the Senate that Congress should consider legislation concerning catastrophic natural disasters.

Pages S7825–26

Wellstone/Mikulski Amendment No. 949, to state the sense of the Senate regarding appropriations for discretionary activities of the Department of Veterans Affairs in fiscal years 1999 through 2002.

Page S7827

Wellstone Amendment No. 950, to provide for the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs to hold hearings to consider certain disease related legislation.

Pages S7827–30

Mikulski Amendment No. 951, to provide for increased funding for empowerment zones and enterprise communities.

Pages S7830–33

Bumpers Amendment No. 954, to earmark funds for a National Research Council report on the Space Station program.

Page S7843

Bumpers Amendment No. 955, regarding J–1 visas for doctors at Veterans Administration hospitals.

Page S7843

Bond Amendment No. 956, to enable the State of Florida to use prior EPA Title II funds for a grant for wastewater treatment.

Pages S7843–45

Bond (for Faircloth) Amendment No. 957, to limit the use of locality pay differential that would provide a pay increase to an employee transferred as a result of sexual harassment.

Pages S7843–45

Bond (for Gorton) Amendment No. 958, to limit participation in the Native American Housing Block Grants Program under certain conditions.

Pages S7843–45

Bond (for Shelby) Amendment No. 959, to make funds available for the Neutral Buoyancy Simulator program of NASA.

Pages S7843–45

Bond/Mikulski Amendment No. 960, to make certain technical and clerical corrections.

Pages S7843, S7845

Rejected:

Bumpers Amendment No. 944, to reduce the appropriation for the implementation of the space station program for the purpose of terminating the program. (By 69 yeas to 31 nays (Vote No. 193), Senate tabled the amendment.)

Pages S7804–09, S7833–34, S7836–41

Withdrawn:

Allard Amendment No. 947, to make an amendment relating to the use of public housing operating funds to provide tenant-based assistance.

Pages S7826–27

D'Amato Amendment No. 952, to require reports by the Comptroller General on the allocation of health care resources of the Department of Veterans Affairs under the Veterans Integrated Service Net-

work system and the Veterans Equitable Resource Allocation system.

Pages S7834–36

Bumpers Amendment No. 953, to cap the cost of the Space Station.

Pages S7841–42

Senate insisted on its amendment, requested a conference with the House thereon, and the Chair appointed the following conferees: Senators Bond, Burns, Stevens, Shelby, Campbell, Craig, Cochran, Mikulski, Leahy, Lautenberg, Harkin, Boxer, and Byrd.

Page S7857

Subsequently, S. 1034 was returned to the Senate calendar.

Page S7857

Agriculture Appropriations—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for the consideration of S. 1033, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, on Wednesday, July 23, 1998.

Page S7878

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Philip Lader, of South Carolina, to be Ambassador to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Page S7878

Communications:

Pages S7861–62

Statements on Introduced Bills:

Pages S7863–69

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages S7869–70

Amendments Submitted:

Pages S7870–72

Authority for Committees:

Pages S7872–73

Additional Statements:

Pages S7873–78

Record Votes: Six record votes were taken today. (Total—194)

Pages S7787, S7790–91, S7823, S7841, S7857

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:45 a.m., and adjourned at 6:59 p.m., until 9 a.m., on Wednesday, July 23, 1997. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S7878.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

CLEAN AIR REGULATIONS AND AGRICULTURE

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry: Committee concluded hearings to examine the impact of Environmental Protection Agency revisions to the national ambient air quality standards for ground-level ozone and particulate matter on the agriculture industry, after receiving testimony from Carol M. Browner, Administrator, Environmental Protection